ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1876

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Alabama Baptist Association.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Alabama Baptist Association.

The delegates met according to adjournment, with the HOPEWELL BAPTIST CHURCH, MOUNT WILLING, LOWNDES Co. Ala., onFriday, Oct. 6th, 1876, at 11 o'clock.

After singing the 869th, hymn:

"Sweet the time—exceeding sweet,
When the saints together meet;"

Elder J. W. ORME preached the introductory sermon from 10th verse of the 85th Psalm—"Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other."

The *Committee on Credentials*—consisting of Brethren E. F. BABER, B. H. CRUMPTON, Jeff. Harris and D. B. Edwards was appointed when, after the benediction by BRO. T. C. M. GOLLAND, the Association adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION—FRIDAY.

After a recess of one hour the Association re-assembled and the services were opened with singing and prayer by BRO. T. J. CUMBIE.

The letters of the several churches were read by BR'N. BABER, MCQUEEN and GOLLAND and the names of the messengers enrolled as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Pleasant Hill—B. W. WHILDEN, T. E. WILLIAMS, U. J. Crumpton, T. U. Crumpton.

Shiloh—C. H. Cleveland, B. D. Crum, J. M. Smoke.

Town Creek—W. W. Hardy, D. B. Edwards, S. W. Quarles.

Centre Ridge—H. S. Yates, Jos. Swink, * F. A. Lee. *
Bethany—E. F. BABER, R. P. Rives, * Jno. A. Caffey. *
Sister Springs.—Not represented.
Cedar Creek.— " "

SECOND DISTRICT.

New Bethel.—Jno. M. Bruner, * J. A. Crow, W. W. Pruitt.
Steep Creek.—S. A. Satterwhite, W. P. Bullock, W. R. Relfe.
Hayneville.—A. Varner, E. F. BABER.
Bethel.—M. BISHOP, T. C. M. GOLLAND, R. M. Burt.
Mt. Gilead—H. W. Edwards, Jas. Bryant, Dunklin Pierce.
Ash Creek.—B. F. Caffey, D. G. Arnold, A. Edwards.
Hopewell.—DAVID LEE, J. H. Robertson, Jesse Coleman.
Good Hope.—Jno. Peagler, I. L. TAYLOR, J. C. Abbott.
Benton—Letter—no messenger.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Pine Level—E. J. Harris, J. A. Frazier, Shad. Dick. *
Elam.—Z. B. Jackson, George S. Ward, W. G. Worrell.
Midway—J. T. CUMBIE, W. L. Willis, * D. Ellis. *
Unity—J. W. Mathews. N. M. Morris. M. D. Lamar. *
First Montgomery.—J. B. HAWTHORNE, J. T. Glaze, * Jno. Bullock, B. B. Davis.
Adams Street, Montgomery—not represented.
Liberty.—B. A. Mitchell, * J. D. Wright, Geo. W. Crossgrove.
Salem.—T. J. Crawford, * L. L. Aiken, Jas T. Gray. *
Mt. Lebanon.—J. W. ORME, J. H. REVEL, * E. P. Johnson.
Autaugaville.—O. W. Sherrer.
Ramah.—Not represented.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Hickory Grove.—F. Armstrong, * J. P. Cross, W. P. McQueen. *
Damascus.—W. C. AVANT, * W. S. Andress, Jesse Edge, * E. Weaver.
New Ebenezer.—Jas. Polk, Jeff Cook, * C. C. Mothershead.
Union.—J. F. Sims, J. E. KOLB, * A. Stringer. *
Greenville.—T. C. Watts, Jno. Gamble, B. H. CRUMPTON.
Philadelphia.—Not represented.
Antioch.—By letter—no messenger.
Bethlehem—Not represented.
Macedonia.—Not represented.

After which an election was held, BR'N. BABER, MCQUEEN and GOLLAND acting as tellers, which resulted in the election of the following officers for the coming year:

DAVID LEE,.....Moderator
Thad. C. Watts.....Treasurer
Benj. B. Davis..... Clerk

Bro. Lee accepted the position with appropriate remarks and on behalf of the Hopewell Church welcomed the Association,

Ramah Church presented her petition for admission and was received into the fellowship of this Association.

On call for corresponding messengers the following were severally recognized.

Pine Barren Association—Jno. Purifoy, T. Posey, Jno. F. Lee.
Cahaba Association—M. T. SUMNER.

State Educational Board.—J. B. HAWTHORNE.
So. Baptist Theo. Sem.—M. T. SUMNER.
Town Creek Lad. Benev. So.—D. B. Edwards.
Zion Association.—W. A. Shanks.

The Moderator announced the following *Standing Committees:*

Religious Exercises.—U. G. Crumpton, J. P. Cross, E. P. Johnson and the deacons of Hopewell Church.

On Documents—T. C. M. GOLLAND, Jno. Gamble, B. F. Caffey, N. M. Morris, T. E. WILLIAMS.

On Missions to report next year—B. H. CRUMPTON, B. W. WHILDEN, R. M. Burt, S. A. Satterwhite, J. T. Cumbie.

On Finance—D. B. Edwards, W. W. Pruitt, C. H. Cleveland.

Auditing Committee—H. S. Yates, O. W. Sherrer, Z. B. Jackson.

The *Committee on Credentials* made their report, viz:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

We find on examining the letters sent up by the Churches the following to be their action in regard to the new constitution.

Nine Churches approve the new constitution entire		
Nine	" " " " "	excepting the 7th article.
One	" " " " "	" 4th, 7th, 12th.
Six	" make no mention of it.	
One	" rejects it entirely.	

Respectfully submitted,

E. F. BABER, *Chairman.*

On motion, it was agreed that the first half hour of each day's session be spent in devotional exercises.

Resolved, That we dispense with preaching at 11 o'clock to-morrow and that the order of business be so changed, that the hour from 11 to 12 be set apart to hear addresses from Dr. SUMNER and others on the claims of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The *Report of the Executive Board* was read and on motion laid on the table for action at some future time.

The *Report of the late Treasurer*, S. W. Lide, viz:

SAM'L. W. LIDE, *Treasurer.*
In acc't with ALABAMA BAPTIST ASS'N.

1875—1876 DR.

To cash received for Minutes	$ 71 60	
Redeemed Pledges	224 75	
Domestic and Indian Missions	42 75	
Foreign Missions	46 20	
Ministerial Education	48 50	
Associational Missions	47 60	$481 40

CR.

By cash paid Clerk for Minutes	71 60	
Dr. H. A. Tupper—Foreign Miss'n Board	31 35	
" " China Mission	3 50	
" W. H. McIntosh—Home Board	35 15	
" " Indian Mission	11 00	
Elder T. M. Bailey—State Miss'n Board	36 60	
" " " " "	41 60	
B. B. Davis—Educational Board	48 50	
Dr. D. W. Gwin " "	17 00	
" W. C. Cleveland—Asso'n Missions	185 10	$481 40

Respectfully submitted,

SAM'L. W. LIDE.

Was read and referred to the Auditing Committee.

On motion, adjourned with prayer by Bro. SUMMER until 9 o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY MORNING.

The Association convened at 9 o'clock, when, after half hour's devotional exercises conducted by Brother B. H. CRUMPTON, the regular order of business was resumed.

The minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read, corrected and approved.

On motion the name of the Lowndesboro' Church was stricken from the minutes because the Church has virtually ceased to exist.

The *Order of Business* and the *Rules of Order* were read by the Clerk.

On motion Resolved, to revive and appoint the *Committee on the State of Religion* in the Churches to report during this session.

Committee, M. BISHOP, Z. B. Jackson, E. J. Harris, J. P. Cross, J. T. Sims.

The following messengers were appointed to return correspondence to *Salem Association*—B. A. JACKSON, J. W. ORME, A. F. GOLDSMITH, B. B. Davis, J. T. CUMBIE, E. Jeff. Harris.

To *Zion Association*—A. F. GOLDSMITH, M. BISHOP, R. M. Burt, B. B. Davis, B. H. CRUMPTON, Jno. Gamble.

To *Pine Barren Association*—J. B. HAWTHORNE, B. H. CRUMPTON, U. J. Crumpton, R. M. Burt, J. E. WILLIAMS.

To Eufaula Association.—J. B. HAWTHORNE, Jno. Bullock, B. B. Davis.

To Centennial Association—J. B. HAWTHORNE, Jno. Bullock, B. B. Davis, J. D. Wright, E. J. Harris, E. P. Johnson, J. A. Frazier, J. T. CUMBIE.

To Tuskegee Association.—B. B. Davis, J. B. HAWTHORNE, Jno. Bullock.

To Bethleham Association.—B. H. CRUMPTON.

To Cahaba Association.—U. J. CRUMPTON.

To Unity Association.—O. W. Sherrer, J. W. Mathews, N. M. Morris.

To Ala. Baptist State Convention—To meet at Gadsden, Thursday before the 3rd Sabbath in July—J. B. HAWTHORNE, JNO. W. ORME, Jno. Gamble, U. J. Crumpton, J. T. CUMBIE, T. C. M. GOLLAND, J. D. Wright, W. P. Bullock, E. F. BABER, B. H. CRUMPTON, with power to fill any vacancies.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to report on *Education* during the present Session of this Association.

Committee—B. H. CRUMPTON, R. M. Burt, E. F. BABER.

The hour of eleven having arrived, the regular order of business was suspended to hear addresses from BR'N. SUMNER and HAWTHORNE on the claims of the *Southern Baptist Theological Seminary* after which a collection in cash $76.00 and pledges $733.75, amounting to $809.75 was taken up, when, on motion the Association adjourned for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Preaching at the stand at 2 o'clock by BRO. T. C. M. GOLLAND. The Association re-assembled at 2 o'clock when, after singing, the *Committee on Religious Exercises* reported the order of exercises for Sabbath viz: 10 o'clock, Prayer meeting conducted by BRO. CRUMPTON, 11 o'clock, Missionary sermon by BRO. M. BISHOP, 2 o'clock sermon by BRO. J.B. HAWTHORNE.

The report of the *Executive Board* was on motion taken from the table and recommitted for additions.

The *Auditing Committee* reported that they had examined the report of the late Treasurer S. W. Lide for the past year and found it correct.

The *Committee on Missions* made their report.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The subject of Missions in general has been so often and so ably pressed upon our people, that your Committee are at a loss for new arguments and new incentives to present in that behalf. But we do not feel that further argument is greatly needed, believing, as we do, that a large majority of the members of our churches are already convinced so far as the mind is concerned of the utility and the duty of occupying the waste places both at home and abroad, in the name of the Lord. The problem now is, how to engage the hearts and sympathies of professing Christians in the matter, and thus open their purses. We may not be able to answer the question, but beg to suggest—First, direct and continued appeals to the Christian sympathies, and sense of duty of the people; which necessarily implies greater earnestness and activity on the part of Pastors. Second, more system in collections, by which each member will contribute something, however,little; thus abandoning the long prevalent custom of making a few do all the contributing. Those upon whom this duty is devolved are now too poor to furnish the amount of money necessary for the Mission work and it is therefore, absolutely necessary that all should help to bear the burden.

A comparison of the contributions made by the members within our bounds twenty years ago, when the people were in good financial condition with those now made, discloses the fact that we now contribute more in proportion to ability than we did then, but the fact still remains that much more could now be given, and ought to be, than is given. And we believe it would be, if the system were observed which we have suggested.

The Home Mission Board has a large number of Missionaries in the Southern States, and a smaller number in the Indian Nation. These must be supported in the future and the Board enabled to send out others as prudence may suggest. The money with which to meet these obligations must come from the indvidual members of the churches, as the Board has no other source of income.

The Foreign Mission Board has twenty-five or thirty Missionaries and native Evangelists, male and female, besides a number of native assistants in China, Africa and Italy. These must also be supported by the contributions of individual members. Shall it be done? It ought to be.

About two years ago Elder T. M. Bailey entered the field as State Evangelist or Missionary for Alabama, being commissioned also, to pay special attention to the Sabbath School cause. He must likewise be

supported by the help of individual members, and it is a personal matter with every Baptist in the State. Surely an argument cannot be necessary in this case, particularly to the brethren within the bounds of this Association, where Brother Bailey is known and loved so well. We know that argument would not be needed if the brethren would reflect upon the fact that upon the successful issue of Brother Bailey's work all our other Missionary enterprises largely depend. For it is an important part of his duty to instruct and persuade the churches, wherever he may go, to a more faithful and intelligent discharge of their duty to God and their fellow creatures. Thus it will be seen that the support given to him contributes to the strengthening of our Home and Foreign Board, he is developing our resources.

Both the Home and Foreign Board have been greatly encouraged during the past year by the liberal responses made to their appeals for help; but they are still in urgent need of money, and earnestly ask every Baptist in the South to do what he can to relieve them of their difficulties. True, few of our people have surplus money, but it is also true that God's demands in this direction are not limited to the surplus. "According to that a man hath" he is expected to give, whether he have much of little. Respectfully submitted,

E. F. BABER, *Chairman.*

When after remarks from BR'N. CRUMPTON, MCQUEEN, BABER, and HAWTHORNE and by appending to it the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the establishment of the *State Mission Board* was a step in the proper direction and it ought to be and must be sustained, if possible.

The report was adopted.

On motion—

Resolved, That the Moderator fill the vacancies in the *Committee on Sabbath Schools*, appointed last year.

Whereupon he appointed John Bullock from the 3rd and Thad C. Watts from the 4th District.

Adjourned with prayer by Bro. CRUMPTON, and doxology and benediction by Bro. SUMNER, to 9 o'clock Monday.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

An hour's devotional exercises were held commencing at 10 o'clock conducted by Bro. J. T. CUMBIE; at 11 o'clock Bro. M. BISHOP, the Alternate appointed, preached the *Missionary sermon* from Mark 16: 15, Luke 24: 29. After which a cash collection was taken up viz: For Home Missions, $1.00; Foreign, $16.00; Indian, $5.00; Missions, $38.65; and pledge of $5.00 from Dr. R. W. Lee, $1.00 from Hulda Daniel, making in all in cash and pledges $66.65.

At 2 o'clock, BRO. J. B. HAWTHORNE preached in the *Church* from Heb. 10: 36, and BRO. B. H. CRUMPTON, at the *Stand* from the last clause of 21st verse of 7th chapter of John.

MONDAY.

The Association convened at 9 o'clock and a half hour's devotional

exercises conducted by BRO. T. C. M. GOLLAND were held when the regular order of business was resumed by reading the Minutes of Saturday which were approved.

The *Executive Board* submitted their amended Report which is as follows:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee of the Alabama Baptist Association respectfully reports:

The means contributed by the Association was inadequate to procure the services of an efficient man to supply the destitution within its bounds.

After mature deliberation it was resolved, to request the State Mission Board to send Rev. T. M. BAILEY, to occupy the destitute portion of the Associational territory as long as the means placed at our disposal will justify. The Board complied with this request and in pursuance thereof BRO. BAILEY, rendered faithful and efficient service. The manifest blessing of God attended his work, and the results confirm your committee in the belief, that under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, they have acted wisely.

While we are glad to report the extent of the destitution largely diminished, we would urge the Churches to liberal efforts in supplying the churches yet unable to employ pastors.

There has been no Associational Missionary in the field, because the churches failed to provide for one by their contributions; but some of the pastors have employed their unoccupied Sabbaths in preaching to destitute churches. There is, however, plenty of work for a missionary, and it is unfortunate for the cause of the Master, that provision has not been made to support one. So far as we have been able to learn, there are four churches within our bounds, having pastors this year, which had none last year. There are three churches which had preaching regularly or nearly so, last year, but have it irregularly this year. Four churches have no stated preaching at all, though located so that they might have a fair congregation.

The labors of a missionary are needed most in the north-eastern and north-western portions of our bounds, and we would urge the importance of either placing one in the field for at least a part of the year, or else making some arrangement with pastors whose time is not wholly occupied, to visit and develop the destitute churches.

W. C. CLEVELAND,
E. F. BABER,
Committee.

Which after remarks from BR'N. ORME, HAWTHORNE, BISHOP and CUMBIE, was adopted.

The *Committe on Documents* made the following report:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

The *Committee on Documents* beg leave to submit that they have examined all the matters submittted for their consideration, and state that the Report of the *Committee of Reforms* submitted by the last Session of this Association to the churches for their action, has been rejected—by direct action and by non-action.

They further submit that the Midway Church has asked for a letter of dismission from this Body in order to unite with the Centennial Association which is respectfully recommended to be granted.

All of which is

Respectfully submitted,
T. C. M. GOLLAND, *Chairman.*

Which was also adopted.

On motion:

Resolved, that a Committee of three be appointed to draft suitable resolutions on the death of Deacon G. B. Canty.

Committee E. J. Harris, J. W. ORME, J. D. Wright.

The Report of the Committee on the *State of Religion* as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATE OF RELIGION.

The Committee on the *State of Religion* in the churches, beg leave to report.

Our religion for the last ten years has been passing through a fiery trial, many are made to bless God amidst these afflicting Providences and from experience adopt the sentiment, "All things work together for good to them that love God," while on the other hand some few have turned back and follow the Master no more. There has been some decrease in our beloved host, in members, during the last few years, some one or two of our churches have only a name to live in the body. The churches testify of themselves thus, some, "we are languid and cold," others, "we have nothing cheering to communicate again," some say "we are very cold, our religion is at a low ebb," says one "we are in a deplorable condition, brethren pray for us," we are made to bless God that most of the churches send more cheering words confessing they are on rising ground, in a good condition, and encouraged by gracious revivals at some time during the year. When we take into consideration the facts that none of the churches have been entirely without preaching and all but two have been supplied by Pastors, and that more churches than usual report flourishing Sabbath schools, the conviction is forced upon us that there is a growth in grace and a knowledge of peace among us.

M. BISHOP, *Chairman.*

Was then read and adopted.

The Committee on *Sabbath Schools* made their report, viz:

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

There are 21 churches that report Sabbath Schools, in which there are 21 Sabbath schools, 101 teachers, 1,020 scholors, 2 teacher's meetings—all meet every Sunday—three of these schools report no statistics.

We are glad to report, that from all the information that we have gotten, the Sabbath school interest has greatly increased. There are many flourishing schools within the bounds of the Association. We would still urge the importance of every church meeting every Sabbath to engage in the Sabbath school work.

We believe that the labors of our State Evangelist, Elder T. M. BAILEY, with the churches has resulted in great good to the Sabbath School cause, and we would urge the importance of the churches contributing to his support, that his labors may be continued with the churches.

D. B. EDWARDS,
T. C. WATTS,
JNO. BULLOCK,
R. M. BURT,
Committee.

Which was also adopted, as also the Report of the *Committee on Education.*

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

The culture of the mind is the best earthly legacy which can be left to posterity. The mental powers are certainly not inferior to others; and if the improvement of all talents be a christian duty, then the obligation to educate, will be frankly admitted by Christians.

Superadded to mental culture, the improvement of morals, and all cavil as to the absolute necessity of education will give way.

The *nature* of education of course should not be overlooked. The whole of human life is but a school for the formation of character; and all persons are being educated for better or for worse. The system of instruction which, as a body, we should recommend and adopt, is such as will expand the intellect to its utmost capacity, and will heighten the tone of moral character. The physical, mental, and moral man are all affected in true education.

The establishment and support of institutions for the thorough instruction of all, will at once be admitted, in consideration of the *subjects* of Education. It is highly important that, as a denomination, we begin to look toward a system of general instruction, whereby the masses may become informed. This is most assuredly a great necessity. Parents cannot do more, or better, for their children except the setting before them a pious example, than to furnish them with the best possible Education. But *Ministerial* Education is certainly one of the greatest demands of the age; and as high an order of Education as it is possible to obtain. This demand calls loudly upon our sympathies and our aid. It is but just to state and note the fact that the glory and success of our denomination hinges upon the fact that we do not make a classical, or even high English Education, requisite to the ministry; and the men who have propagated and sustained our principles in the past were men of limited attainments, and deserve to be cherished in our memories. We would not, therefore, cast a shadow over the history of those pioneer Worthies, nor drive the weakest one of them from our sacred memories, yet, the best possible preparation for the ministry should be made, and as speedily as possible.

As to the institutions of learning deserving our consideration and patronage, our loved Howard College stands first and foremost, an institution which has stood the tests of frequent and severe fires, and is even now existing under the severe, yet unjust censure of some who should be its friends. Headed by Col. Murfee, one of the best disciplinarians in the United States, and a most excellent faculty, it is destined to occupy the highest position possible for a College, if supported by the denomination. The Judson Female Institute, for the education of our daughters, now under the Presidency of Prof. L. R. Gwaltney, D. D., needs no recommendation. Its history in the past commends it to the confidence of the people for the furture. Our Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, at Greenville, South Carolina, seems to be an absolute necessity, and deserves the sympathy and contributions of the denomination all over the State.

Resolved, 1. That we still cherish the deepest sympathy with the endowment of Howard College, and commend Bro. J. J. D. Renfroe, the endowment agent, to the confidence of all.

2nd, That the committee of the Churches to co-operate with Bro. Renfroe, be urged to prosecute their duties with vigor immediately, and forward the proceeds of their efforts, very soon to head-quarters.

3rd, That we are rejoiced at the visit of Dr. Sumner, among us in the interest of S. B. T. S. and recommend to all the Churches to give him a warm reception and patient hearing.

4th, That we favor the existence of the Educational Board of Alabama, and will constantly do what we can for the education of the Ministry, in the way of contributions to that Board, as well as by giving it our moral support.

Respectfully submitted,
B. H. CRUMPTON, *Chairman*.

And a collection being taken for Board of Education, Greenville Church paid $10, Liberty Church paid $5, Damascus Church paid $5, Jno. A. Frazier paid $5, J. P. Cross paid $1, T. C. Watts paid $1, I. L. Taylor paid $1, unnamed paid $3.25, and pledges taken from First

Baptist Church of Montgomery $25, R. M. Burt $5, A. F Goldsmith $5, Good Hope Church $10, Salem Church $5, Pine Level Church $5, Mt. Lebanon Church $5, Steep Creek Church $5, Hopewell Church $10, S. S. Bishop $5, J. S. Yates $5, Elam Church $5, Bethel Church $5, Town Creek Church $5, D. Lee $2.50, D. Odom $1, A. Edwards $3, G. L. Graham $3, D. M. Harris $1, Jno. T. Lee $2.50.

The Committee to draft resolutions on the death of Deacon G. B. Canty reported as follows:

Whereas, God in his allwise Providence has seen fit to remove from us by death our beloved Brother, Deacon G. B. Canty, of Liberty Church. Be it—

Resolved, As the sense of the body, that in his death we have lost an efficient member, the Church a faithful officer, and the cause of truth an earnest and fearless advocate. Respectfully submitted,

E. J. HARRIS,
J. W. ORME,
J. D. WRIGHT,
Committee.

On motion, the Committee to prepare the *History of the Churches in the First District* was granted further time with the privilege of selecting Committeemen to fill vacancies.

The Chairman of the Committee to prepare the *History of the Churches in the Second District* reported progress and on motion the Committee was granted further time.

The *Committee on the time and place for the next Session of this Body* reported that the Third District waived their right, with the understanding that we recommend to the next Association to appoint the succeeding Session within the bounds of the Third District and would report in favor of Greenville, and on the Friday before the second Sabbath in October 1877, which report was adopted.

The *Committee to Nominate Preachers* for the next Session nominated BRO. T. J. MILES to preach the Introductory sermon, BRO. B. A. JACKSON, Alternate; BRO. J. B. HAWTHORNE to preach the Missionary sermon and BRO. B. F. RILEY, Alternate, which report was concurred in.

On motion—

Resolved, That a Board with the powers of an Executive Board to be located at Fort Deposit, consisting of five brethren, be appointed who are instructed to co-operate with the State Mission Board in the prosecution of the Associational Missions—

Committee—R. M. Burt, Chairman, T. C. M. GOLLAND, R. H. Lee, Thad C. Watts, and B. B. Davis.

Resolved, That the Moderator appoint a Committee to prepare a History of the Churches in the Third District—

Committee—J. W. ORME, Chairman, N. D. Wright, M. McLemore, J. T. Cumbie, J. W. Mathews, B. B. Davis, J. M. Falkner, Jas. Mitchell, J. T. Gray, O. W. Sherrer, J. D. Garrett.

On motion, agreed that the undirected missionary collection of yesterday be equally divided between the Home and Foreign Boards.

The *Report of the Finance Committee* was read and referred to the Auditing Committee.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to the Mount Willing Church and the surrounding community for the generous hospitality shown us during our session.

Resolved, That we recommend to the Churches within the bounds of this Association, that they take up a collection for Associational Missions at their first meeting in November and on the failure or absence of the Pastor that some member then present, present the claims of the Associational Missions and see that said collection be taken up and forward the proceeds immediately thereafter to Bro. R. M. Burt, Chairman of the Executive Board at Fort Deposit.

On motion—

Resolved, That the money sent up for "general purposes" and any balance which may remain of the Minute Fund after paying for and distributing the same, be appropriated to Associational Missions.

Resolved, 1. That we have watched and noted with the greatest delight and profoundest gratitude the success of the "Alabama Baptist," and again commend it to the most favorable consideration and liberal patronage of the Churches composing this body.

Resolved, 2. That we would recommend that one efficient member in each Church be appointed as Agent for the paper within the bounds of said Church.

On motion—

Resolved, That the Executive Board be authorized to help Salem and Bethesda Churches the amount being left to their discretion.

The *Auditing Committee* reported that they had examined and found the Finance Committee's Report correct.

Business was on motion suspended to allow a collection for the State Mission Board with the following result, viz: Mrs. Thames paid $5, Ezra C. Plum paid $1, Wesley Meadow paid $2, I. L. Taylor paid $1, Mrs. Wright paid 50c, Mrs. Thigpen paid $1, Greenville Church paid $5, Mrs. R. M. Burt paid $1, unknown paid $5, hat collection $2.50, making in cash $24.00 and pledges as follows:

E. J. Harris $5, B. B. Davis $20, T. C. Watts $10, Mrs. E. R. Lee $5, Mrs. Jesse Lee $1, Bethel Church $5, A. Edwards $5, B. F. Caffey $5, D. Lee jr. $2.50, Mrs. M. E. Lee $1, Mrs. J. M. Maynard $1, Mrs. T. S. Golland $1, Mrs. M. E. C. Lee $1, G. L. Graham $2, Mrs. S. E. Murphree $1, Mrs. N. E. Carr $1, Mrs. E. F. Johnson $1, Miss L. A. Bishop $1, Mrs. L. A. Bullock $1, Mrs. M. J. Haygood $1, M. A. Walker $1, Miss A. M. Gordon $5.

After which, on motion the Association adjourned with singing and remarks and prayer by Bro. D. Lee to meet with the Greenville Baptist Church on Friday before the second Sabbath in October 1877.

DAVID LEE, *Moderator*, Mt. Willing.

B. B. DAVIS, *Clerk*, Montgomery.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

1st District. 2ND District. 3RD District.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POSTOFFICE.	County	Baptized	Received by Letter	Reed by Voucher	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Absent Without Letter	Deceased	Excluded	Number of White Members	Number of Colored Members	Increase	Decrease	Ladies' Benevolent Societies	Prayer Meetings	Young Men's Pr. Meetings	Sabbath Schools	Teachers	Scholars	Teachers Meetings	Sabbath Meetings	Licensed to Preach
Centre Ridge	B F Riley	J W Dennis	Richmond	D	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	79	...	...	2	1	w	w	w	6	35	...	2d	...
Town Creek	B W Whilden	T A Hardy	Benton	L	...	1	...	...	6	...	...	1	59	2	...	1	1	w	...	w	5	30	...	1st	...
Bethany	E F Baber	Jno A Caffey	Collirene	L	7	3	1	...	4	...	...	1	53	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	6	43	...	4th	...
Sister Springs	...	Nathan Moore	Benton	L	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pleasant Hill	B W Whilden	J W Smyly	Pleasant Hill	D	1	4	...	...	9	...	1	...	60	...	...	5	1	w	...	w	5	25	...	4th	...
†Cedar Creek	J F Bruner	Ithiel Ingram	Farmersville	L	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shiloh	E F Baber	C H Morgan	Selma	D	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	...	...	9	...	w	...	w	1	38	...	4th	...
Hopewell	David Lee	J H Robertson	Mt Willing	L	...	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	88	...	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	1st	...
Ash Creek	E F Baber	W T Relef	Benton	L	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	33	...	...	...	21	...	...	w	...	...	...	2d	...
Hayneville	T C M Golland	A Varner	Hayneville	L	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	w	6	40	...	...	...
Steep Creek	G W McQueen	U G W Powell	Hayneville	L	6	7	1	1	...	...	1	1	66	...	10	...	...	w	...	w	6	30	...	1st	...
Bethel	T C M Golland	R M Burt	Fort Deposit	L	9	6	...	1	5	...	1	3	179	...	7	...	...	w	...	w	...	...	w	1st	...
Good Hope	I L Taylor	J C Abbott	Greenville	B	1	5	...	1	3	...	2	...	25	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1st	...
Mt Gilead	E F Baber	Jas Bryant	Benton	L	3	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	22	...	2	...	...	...	...	w	5	30	...	...	...
Benton	B W Whilden	A L Haralson	Pleasant Hill	D	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2d	...
New Bethel	B W Whilden	W W Pruitt	Bragg's	L	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	38	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3d	...
Salem	...	L L Aiken, p t	Montgomery	M	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	w	...	...	20	...	...	...
†Autaugaville	...	O W Sherrer	Autaugaville	A	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
First Montgomery	J B Hawthorne	W P Van DerVeer	Montgomery	M	10	7	...	1	20	...	11	3	301	...	...	10	1	w	w	w	19	240	w	w	2
Adams St. Mont'y	Jeff. Falkner	J M Falkner	Montgomery	M	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	56	...	...	6	...	w	...	w	1	10	...	w	...
Liberty	Jno W Orme	Wm B Lee	Ramah	M	3	2	...	...	...	...	1	5	60	...	...	1	...	...	...	w	5	36	...	1st	...
Union	W C Avant	J A Stringer	Honoroville	C	6	5	...	1	1	...	...	1	70	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mt Lebanon	B A Jackson	Wm Niblett	Ramah	M	1	3	...	...	4	...	...	3	73	...	3	...	...	...	...	w	3	29	...	4th	...
Pine Level	J S Yarbrough	J A Frazier	Pine Level	M	...	...	...	...	4	...	3	3	76	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	8	60	...	4th	...
*Midway	J P W Brown	W L Willis	Pine Level	M	...	6	1	...	1	...	...	...	23	...	6	...	...	...	...	w	...	...	...	2d	...
Unity	H Clay Taul	Jas H Booth	Prattville	A	7	7	...	...	2	...	3	...	58	...	9	...	...	...	...	w	10	60	...	4th	...
Elam	G W McQueen	Moses McLemore	Montgomery	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	14	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ramer	B A Jackson	C R Waller	Ramer	M	...	6	...	...	5	...	...	...	87	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2d	...

STATE OF THE CHURCHES CONTINUED.

4TH DISTRICT	Greenville	B H Crumpton	Jas A Harris	Greenville	B	27	13	...	...	5	...	2	...	155	...	35	1	...	W	...	W	...	112	...	W	...
	†Philadelphia	...	H F Hinds	Argus	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Antioch	Matt BiShop	Jno P Gafford	Greenville	B	1	1	...	...	7	...	1	1	70	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...
	Damascus	W C Avant	L F Andress	Greenville	B	1	2	...	...	5	...	...	2	78	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36	...
	Hickory Grove	B A Jackson	Asa Dean	Hickory Grove	M	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	38	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...
	†Macedonia	...	H S Graydon	Fort Deposit	L	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	New Ebenezer	W C Avant	Jefferson Cook	Saville	C	8	...	...	...	3	...	3	1	65	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Totals		104	92	4	5	101	3	32	29	2162	3	98	58	1	...	2	...	92	868	2	...	2

† Marks thus not having sent Letters, the Clerk has filled blank with the members heretofore reported.
* Letter of dismission granted to unite with the Centennial Association.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, 1876.

	Minutes	Indian Mission	Domestic Missions	Foreign Missions	State Educational Board	State Mission Board	Gen'l Associational Purposes	Endowment Howard College	S. B. Theological Seminary
Centre Ridge	2 50					16 50			
Town Creek	2 00					20 00		46 00	20 00
Bethany	1 25	2 00	3 25	3 25		10 00			
Ash Creek	1 50					10 00			
Steep Creek	3 00		6 00	5 65		11 00			
Hayneville	1 00					4 00			
Good Hope	75								
Mt. Gilead	1 00					12 00			
Shiloh	1 50								
First Montgomery							8 00		
Adams Street, Montgomery									
Pleasant Hill						10 00			
Bethel	2 50								
Unity	2 50					20 00			
Greenville	5 00			3 00					
Rutledge						10 00			
New Ebenezer	2 00								
Hickory Grove	1 00								
Macedonia									
Antioch	1 50					5 00			
Liberty	1 00								
Cedar Creek									
Philadelphia									
Mt. Lebanon	2 00								
Union	2 45								
Damascus	2 00					1 00			
New Bethel	1 50					8 00			
Hopewell	3 50		5 40	50		5 00		33 60	
Pine Level	1 50								
Midway	1 25								
Autaugaville	50								
Elim	1 60								
Ladies' B. S. Town Creek Church			5 50	10 90		28 15		10 60	
Miss Alice Gordon						5 00			
Salem Church	75								
Ladies' So'y, Pleasant Hill Ch						4 25			
N. D. Wright						5 00			
S. Guice						2 00			
E. J. Harris						5 00			
Ramah	3 00								
Miss L. G. Garrard						1 00			
Jno. A. Frazier						5 00			
Mrs. J. Nesmith						5 00			
Mrs. M. S. Pruitt						5 00			
William Niblet						1 00			
J. G. Jones						2 00			
E. P. Johnson						3 00			
J. W. Orme						3 00			
L. Evans						1 00			
Colvin Stephens						1 00			
O. W. Sherrer						5 00			
W. P. Bullock					5 00				
W. R. Relfe						5 00			
R. D. Burt						5 00			
O. A. Coleman						5 00			
E. C. Plumb			5 00						
Collection Saturday						1 50			76 00
Collection Sabbath		5 00	36 63	19 32					
Collection Monday					31 25	24 00			
Totals	59 05	7 00	61 78	42 62	36 25	264 40	28 00	89 60	96 00

Examined and found Correct.

H. S. YATES, Ch'm Auditing Committee.

Rules of Order for Conducting Business in the Alabama Baptist Association.

1. At every annual meeting of this Association, immediately after the delegates names are enrolled, tellers shall be appointed by the Chair, and the Association shall proceed to choose from among their number a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall hold their offices until new ones are chosen.

2. The Moderator shall take the Chair every day, at the hour to which the Association shall have adjourned on the preceding day; shall immediately call the members to order, and on the appearance of a quorum, shall cause the Minutes of the preceding day to be read.

3. He shall preserve order and decorum; may speak to points of order in preference to other members, rising from his seat for that purpose; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Association by any two members; on which appeal no member shall speak more than once unless by leave of the Association.

4. He shall rise to put a question, but may state it sitting.

5. Questions shall be distinctly put; those voting in the affirmative shall say aye, and those of a contrary opinion shall say no. If the Moderator doubts, or a division be called for, the delegates shall divide; those in the affirmative of the question shall first rise from their seats, and afterwards those in the negative.

6. The Moderator shall appoint all committees, unless otherwise specially directed by the Association.

7. In all cases of election the Moderator may vote; in other cases he shall not vote unless the body be equally divided; in that event he shall give the casting vote. He may speak to any question, provided he call some other member to occupy the Chair while he is speaking.

8. The Clerk shall enroll the names of the delegates; minute the proceedings of the body, and perform such other duties as the Association may direct.

9. The Treasurer shall receive, account for and pay out all moneys belonging to this body, according to the instructions of the Association, and perform such other duties as the Association may direct.

DECORUM IN DEBATE.

10. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the Association, he shall rise from his seat, and shall respectfully address the Moderator, and shall confine himself to the question under debate and avoid personalities.

11. If any member in speaking, or otherwise, transgress the rules of the Association, the Moderator shall, or any member may call him to order; in which case the member so called to order shall immediately sit down, unless permitted to explain; and the Association shall, if appealed to, decide on the case, but without debate. If there be no appeal, the decision of the Chair shall be submitted to; if the decision be in favor of the member called to order, he shall be at liberty to proceed; if otherwise, he shall not be permitted to proceed in case any member object, without leave of the Association.

12. When two or more members happen to rise at once, the Moderator shall name the member who is first to speak.

13. No member shall speak more than once to the same question without leave of the Association, unless he be the mover, proposer or introducer of the matter pending; in which case he shall be permitted to speak in reply, but not until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

14. Every member who shall be in the house when a question is

put, shall give his vote, unless the Association for special reason excuse him.

15. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Chair, or being in writing, it shall be handed to the Moderator and read aloud before debated.

16. Every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the Chair or any member desire it.

17. After a motion is stated by the Chair or read aloud by the Clerk, it shall be deemed to be in the possession of the body, but may be withdrawn by leave of the Association at any time before a decision or amendment.

18. When a quesfion is under debate, no motion shall be entertained but to adjourn, to lie on the table, for the previous question, to postpone to a day certain, to commit or amend, to postpone indefinitely—which several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are arranged; and no motion to postpone to a day certain, to commit, or to postpone indefinitely being decided, shall again be allowed during the session.

19. A motion to adjourn shall be always in order, except the Association be engaged in voting.

20. A motion to lay on the table shall be taken without debate, and shall always be in order, except a member be speaking, or the body engaged in voting.

21. On a previous question there shall be no debate. All incidental questions of order arising after a motion is made for the previous question, and pending such motion, shall be decided, whether on appeal or otherwise, without debate.

22. The previous question shall be in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" It shall only be admitted when demanded by a majority of the members present; its effect shall be to put an end to all debate, and bring the Association to a direct vote upon amendments, reported by committee, if any; upon pending amendments, and then upon the main question.

23. No motion, or proposition on a subject different from that under consideration, shall be admitted under color of amendment.

24. When a motion has been once made and carried in the affirmative or negative, it shall be in order for any member of the majority to move a reconsideration thereof, on the same or succeeding business day, and such motion shall take precedence of all other questions, except a motion to adjourn.

25. No member shall absent himself from the house without leave of the Moderator, nor leave the meeting without leave of the Association.

26. Sould any member of this Association absent himself before the close of the session withont permission from the body, he shall be marked in the Minutes as absent without leave.

ORDER OE BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Appoint Committee on Credentials.
3. Recess.
4. Organization.
5. Admission of New Churches.
6. Correspondence.
7. Appoint Committees.
8. Report of the Executive Board.
9. Report of Committees.
10. Treasurer's Report.
11. Appoint time and place of meeting.
12. Miscellaneous Business.